

# **Section 6**

## **1998 Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes Involving Teenage Drivers**

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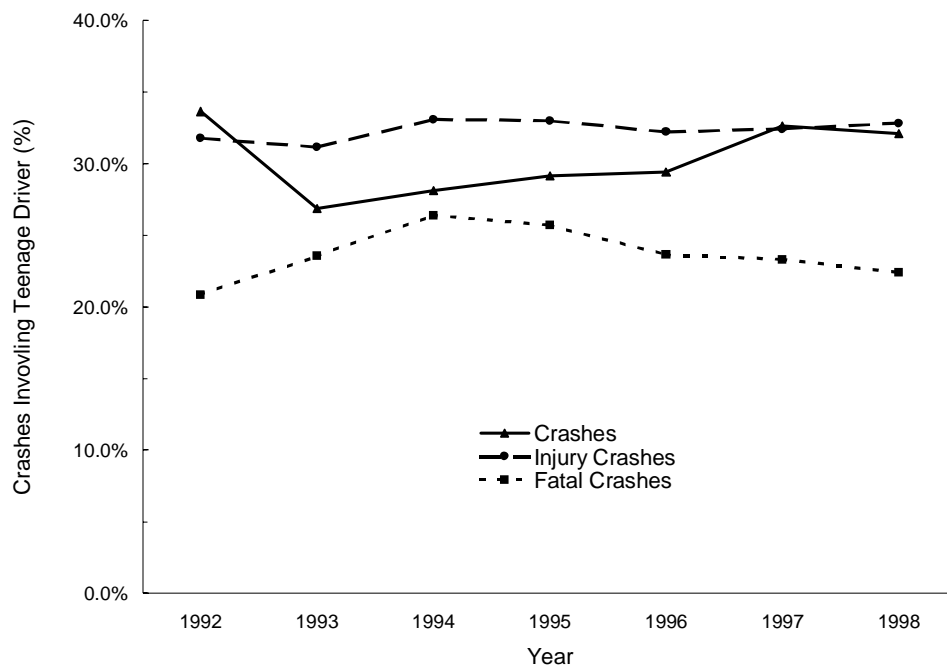
# 1992 - 1998 Teenage Driver Crashes

Teenage drivers aged 15 to 19 years are a special concern because of their high crash rates and lack of driving experience. Table 6.01 and Figure 6.01 show that approximately a third of all crashes involved teenage drivers. The largest percentage of crashes involving teenage drivers occurred in 1992, while the largest proportion of injury crashes and fatal crashes occurred in 1994.

Table 6.01 Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1992 - 1998

Year	Crashes			Injury Crashes			Fatal Crashes		
	All Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers	All Injury Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers	All Fatal Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers
1992	40,660	13,681	33.6%	15,665	4,979	31.8%	235	49	20.9%
1993	55,704	14,972	26.9%	17,088	5,324	31.2%	259	61	23.6%
1994	59,272	16,688	28.2%	18,726	6,197	33.1%	303	80	26.4%
1995	57,644	16,808	29.2%	19,828	6,542	33.0%	284	73	25.7%
1996	61,505	18,100	29.4%	20,988	6,764	32.2%	292	69	23.6%
1997	54,952	17,941	32.6%	21,131	6,851	32.4%	309	72	23.3%
1998	54,072	17,362	32.1%	19,427	6,377	32.8%	308	69	22.4%

Figure 6.01 Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1992 - 1998

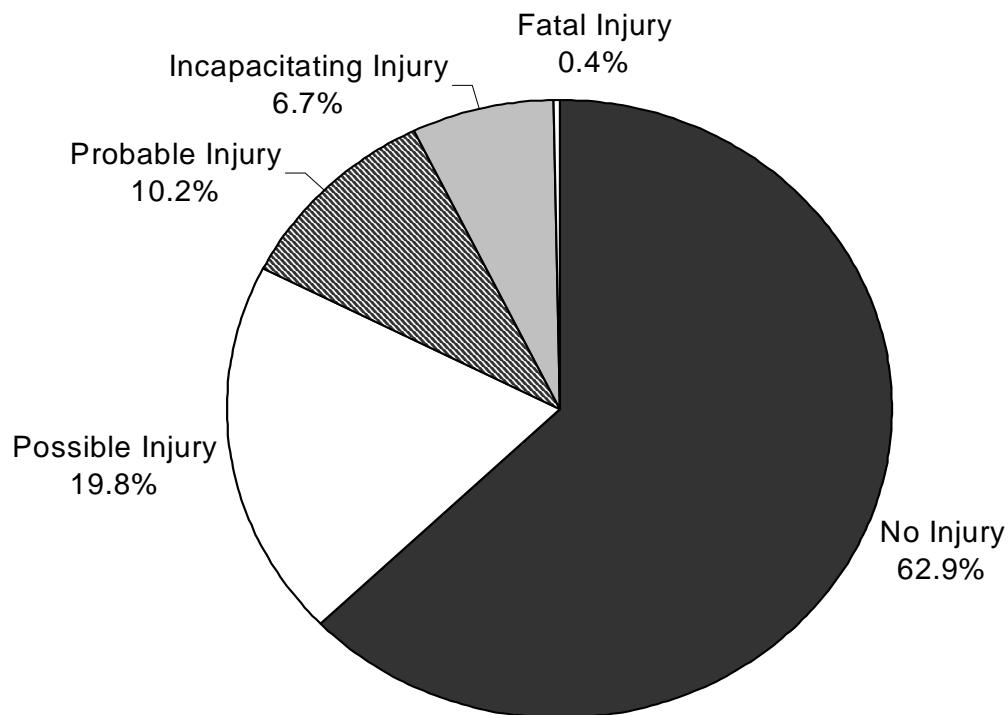


# 1998 Teenage Driver Crash Severity

Figure 6.02 shows the crash severity of teenage driver crashes. Similar to all motor vehicle crashes, 37% of teenage driver crashes resulted in some level of injury. Fatal crashes were lower among teenage driver crashes (0.4%) compared to all motor vehicle crashes at 0.6%.

The number of total crashes, the number of teenage driver crashes and the percent of crashes that involved a teenage driver by county are shown in Table 6.02. Davis, Cache and Washington counties had the highest percentage of crashes that involved a teenage driver. The leading percentage of teenage driver injury crashes occurred in Wayne, Uintah, and Davis counties. The counties with the greatest percentage of teenage driver fatal crashes were Uintah and Rich.

Figure 6.02 Severity of Teenage Driver Crashes as Reported by Police, 1998 (n=17,362)



# 1998 Teenage Driver Crashes by County

Table 6.02 Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes by County, 1998

County	Crashes			Injury Crashes			Fatal Crashes		
	All Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers	All Injury Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers	All Fatal Crashes	Teenage Drivers	Percent Involving Teenage Drivers
Beaver	315	75	23.8%	110	30	27.3%	3	0	0.0%
Box Elder	931	262	28.1%	328	104	31.7%	16	2	12.5%
Cache	2,047	792	38.7%	645	251	38.9%	9	3	33.3%
Carbon	388	130	33.5%	122	41	33.6%	9	2	22.2%
Daggett	50	6	12.0%	8	1	12.5%	0	0	0.0%
Davis	4,035	1,607	39.8%	1,293	538	41.6%	10	3	30.0%
Duchesne	358	103	28.8%	116	38	32.8%	6	1	16.7%
Emery	328	81	24.7%	117	34	29.1%	6	2	33.3%
Garfield	147	24	16.3%	52	10	19.2%	5	0	0.0%
Grand	244	50	20.5%	93	15	16.1%	2	0	0.0%
Iron	961	298	31.0%	326	98	30.1%	13	5	0.0%
Juab	305	65	21.3%	110	30	27.3%	5	1	20.0%
Kane	258	47	18.2%	67	15	22.4%	3	1	33.3%
Millard	416	107	25.7%	165	50	30.3%	10	0	0.0%
Morgan	157	46	29.3%	47	16	34.0%	2	0	0.0%
Piute	62	10	16.1%	16	5	31.3%	2	0	0.0%
Rich	66	15	22.7%	23	7	30.4%	2	1	50.0%
Salt Lake	24,770	7,417	29.9%	9,444	2,867	30.4%	71	14	19.7%
San Juan	285	34	11.9%	95	14	14.7%	6	0	0.0%
Sanpete	471	159	33.8%	160	65	40.6%	5	1	20.0%
Sevier	638	143	22.4%	216	55	25.5%	9	2	22.2%
Summit	841	168	20.0%	187	40	21.4%	9	1	11.1%
Tooele	701	177	25.2%	240	49	20.4%	17	5	29.4%
Uintah	513	196	38.2%	149	62	41.6%	5	3	60.0%
Utah	8,202	2,977	36.3%	2,967	1,116	37.6%	38	12	31.6%
Wasatch	487	106	21.8%	130	33	25.4%	7	1	14.3%
Washington	1,690	651	38.5%	575	213	37.0%	16	3	18.8%
Wayne	67	21	31.3%	19	9	47.4%	2	0	0.0%
Weber	4,339	1,595	36.8%	1,607	571	35.5%	20	6	10.0%
Statewide	54,072	17,362	32.1%	19,427	6,377	32.8%	308	69	20.0%

# 1998 Teenage Driver Crash Times

Table 6.03 shows that crashes involving teenage drivers were highest from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (after school hours) with a slight peak at 7 a.m. (travelling to school). Fatal teenage driver crashes peaked at 4 p.m.

The leading months for teenage driver crashes were September, October, and December (Table 6.04). July, September and December had the highest rates of teenage driver injury crashes. The highest rate per day of teenage driver fatal crashes occurred in July, August and November.

Table 6.03 Hour of Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Hour	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
12 a.m.	275	1.6%	119	1.9%	0	0.0%
1 a.m.	166	1.0%	63	1.0%	2	2.9%
2 a.m.	122	0.7%	58	0.9%	0	0.0%
3 a.m.	73	0.4%	25	0.4%	2	2.9%
4 a.m.	58	0.3%	25	0.4%	0	0.0%
5 a.m.	76	0.4%	28	0.4%	1	1.4%
6 a.m.	207	1.2%	83	1.3%	2	2.9%
7 a.m.	836	4.8%	277	4.3%	4	5.8%
8 a.m.	567	3.3%	196	3.1%	1	1.4%
9 a.m.	458	2.6%	169	2.7%	3	4.3%
10 a.m.	535	3.1%	207	3.2%	0	0.0%
11 a.m.	761	4.4%	244	3.8%	2	2.9%
12 p.m.	1,022	5.9%	388	6.1%	0	0.0%
1 p.m.	1,004	5.8%	386	6.1%	6	8.7%
2 p.m.	1,342	7.7%	527	8.3%	3	4.3%
3 p.m.	1,559	9.0%	545	8.5%	6	8.7%
4 p.m.	1,602	9.2%	536	8.4%	9	13.0%
5 p.m.	1,696	9.8%	621	9.7%	3	4.3%
6 p.m.	1,384	8.0%	509	8.0%	4	5.8%
7 p.m.	1,019	5.9%	388	6.1%	5	7.2%
8 p.m.	776	4.5%	293	4.6%	6	8.7%
9 p.m.	763	4.4%	283	4.4%	5	7.2%
10 p.m.	621	3.6%	238	3.7%	3	4.3%
11 p.m.	440	2.5%	169	2.7%	2	2.9%
Grand Total	17,362	100.0%	6,377	100.0%	69	100.0%

Figure 6.03 Hour of Teenage Driver Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998 (See Table 6.03 for values )

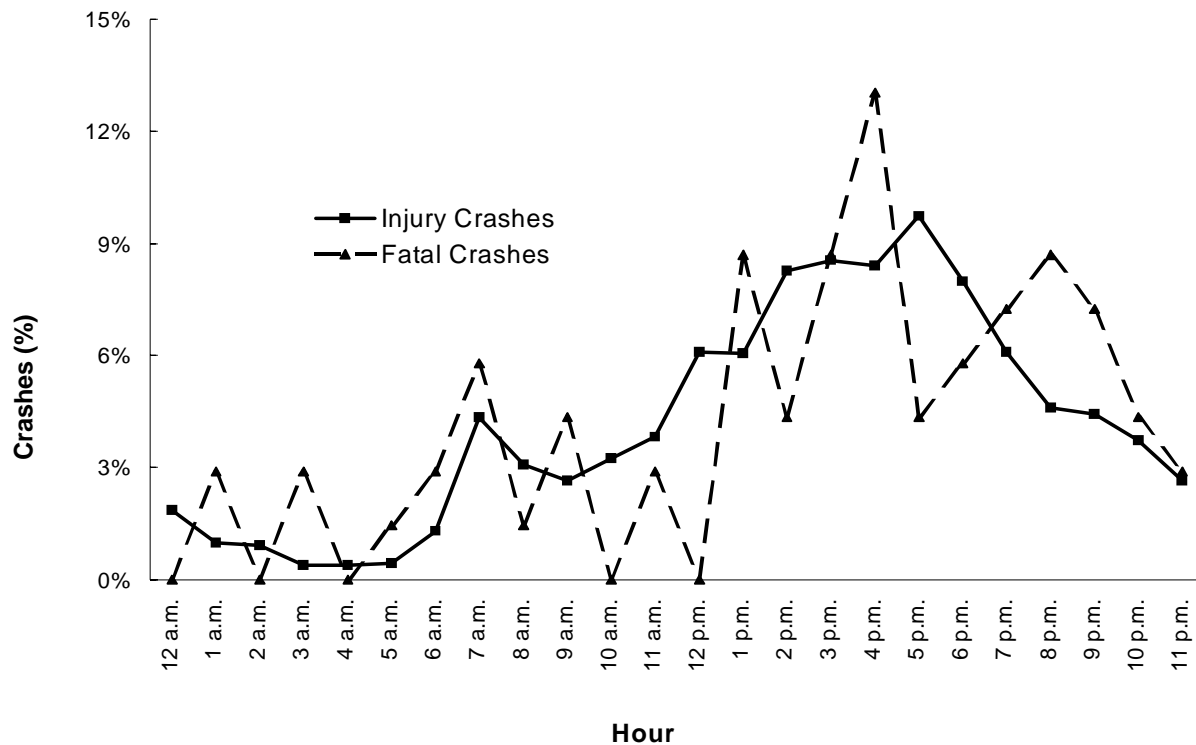
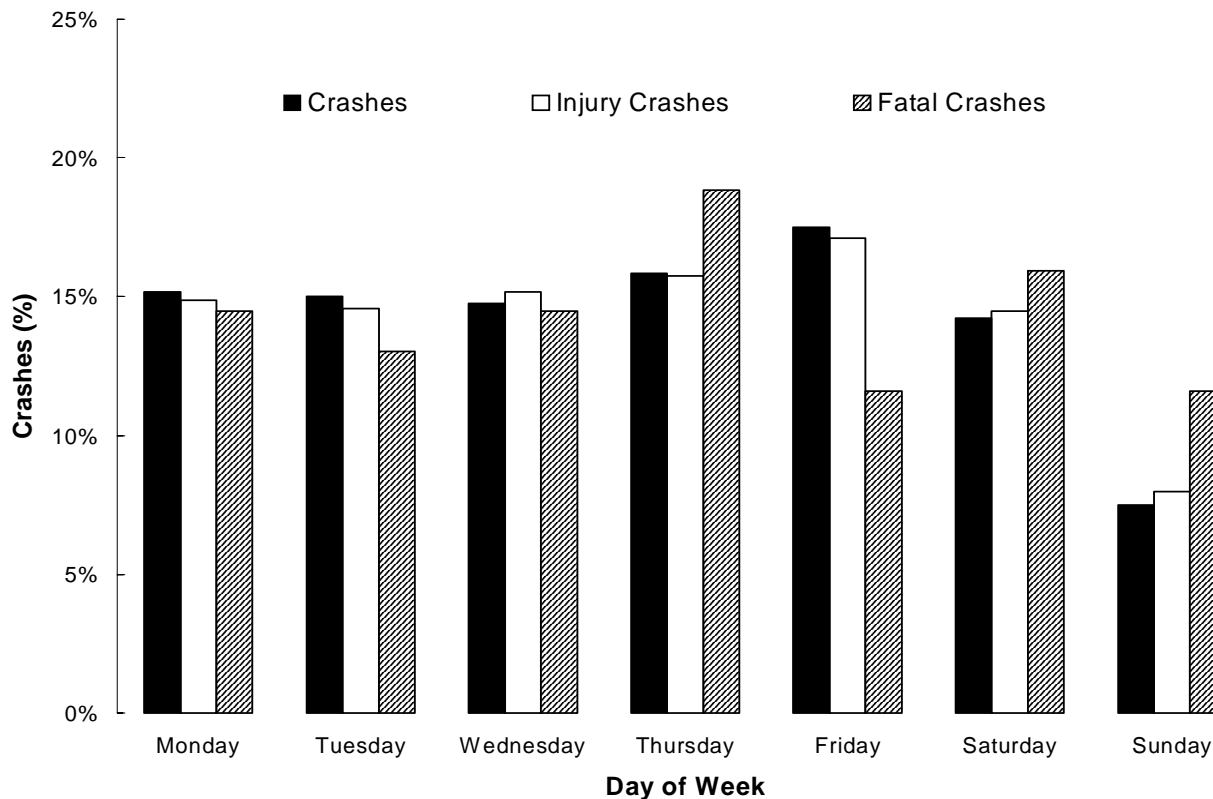


Table 6.04 Month of Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Month	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	Rate Per Day	#	Rate Per Day	#	Rate Per Day
January	1,366	44.1	447	14.4	6	0.2
February	1,367	48.8	458	16.4	3	0.1
March	1,308	42.2	490	15.8	4	0.1
April	1,344	44.8	500	16.7	4	0.1
May	1,355	43.7	533	17.2	3	0.1
June	1,382	46.1	528	17.6	6	0.2
July	1,425	46.0	581	18.7	8	0.3
August	1,457	47.0	570	18.4	10	0.3
September	1,553	51.8	604	20.1	6	0.2
October	1,566	50.5	565	18.2	6	0.2
November	1,441	48.0	523	17.4	8	0.3
December	1,798	58.0	578	18.6	5	0.2
Grand Total	17,362	47.6	6,377	17.5	69	0.2

The least amount of teenage driver crashes occurred on Sunday and the largest amount of crashes occurred on Thursday and Friday (Figure 6.04).

Figure 6.04 Day of Week for Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998 (See Table 6.05 for values)



Note: The above graph is based on percentage for the different crash categories. To read the above graph, look at one category across the groups. For example, look at only the white bars (i.e. injury crashes) from day to day. Do not compare the heights of the different crash categories for a specific day.

Table 6.05 Day of Week for Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Day of Week	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Monday	2,634	15.2%	949	14.9%	10	14.5%
Tuesday	2,607	15.0%	930	14.6%	9	13.0%
Wednesday	2,561	14.8%	968	15.2%	10	14.5%
Thursday	2,751	15.8%	1,004	15.7%	13	18.8%
Friday	3,037	17.5%	1,092	17.1%	8	11.6%
Saturday	2,470	14.2%	924	14.5%	11	15.9%
Sunday	1,302	7.5%	510	8.0%	8	11.6%
Grand Total	17,362	100.0%	6,377	100.0%	69	100.0%

# 1998 Teenage Driver Crash Violations and Contributing Factors

Table 6.06 Violations for Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Violation	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Failure to Yield Right of Way	1,983	23.9%	810	25.7%	1	11.1%
Improper Lookout	1,685	20.3%	600	19.1%	1	11.1%
Following Too Close	1,238	14.9%	422	13.4%	0	0.0%
All Other Moving Violations	730	8.8%	301	9.6%	1	11.1%
Speeding	648	7.8%	230	7.3%	2	22.2%
Negligent Collision	411	5.0%	155	4.9%	0	0.0%
Red Light	354	4.3%	194	6.2%	2	22.2%
Improper Turn	349	4.2%	122	3.9%	0	0.0%
Improper Lane Change	177	2.1%	34	1.1%	0	0.0%
Stop Sign	144	1.7%	75	2.4%	0	0.0%
Reckless Driving	118	1.4%	61	1.9%	0	0.0%
Improper Passing	103	1.2%	32	1.0%	0	0.0%
Improper Backing	94	1.1%	11	0.3%	0	0.0%
Driving Under the Influence	85	1.0%	48	1.5%	1	11.1%
Wrong Side of Road	81	1.0%	26	0.8%	0	0.0%
Hit and Run	66	0.8%	15	0.5%	0	0.0%
Improper Start and Stop	31	0.4%	9	0.3%	0	0.0%
Wrong Way on One Way Street	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Vehicle Homicide	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	11.1%
Grand Total	8,299	100.0%	3,146	100.0%	9	100.0%

Almost half (42.1%) of all teenage drivers involved in a crash received a citation for a violation compared to 34.1% of all drivers involved in a crash (Table 6.06). The leading teenage driver citations were "failure to yield right of way", "improper lookout" and "following too close".

Table 6.07 contains the contributing factors for teenage driver crashes. These factors were coded by the scene officers for each vehicle involved in the crash. The officer may record no contributing factor or up to two different contributing factors. The leading factors for crashes and injury crashes were "improper lookout", "failed to yield right of way" and "speed too fast". "Disregarded traffic signal" was the leading factor in fatal teenage driver crashes. Less than 2% of teenage driver crashes' contributing factors were "had been drinking", "under the influence of drugs", and "DUI".

## Alcohol and Other Drugs:

Of the 69 fatal teenage driver crashes, 6 involved a teenage driver impaired by alcohol or other drugs and resulted in 7 fatalities.



Table 6.07 Contributing Factors of Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Contributing Factor	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Improper Lookout	4,105	25.8%	1,472	24.4%	6	8.3%
Failed to Yield the Right of Way	2,951	18.6%	1,176	19.5%	5	6.9%
Speed Too Fast	2,176	13.7%	805	13.4%	17	23.6%
Following Too Closely	1,900	11.9%	661	11.0%	0	0.0%
Other Improper Driving	1,329	8.4%	527	8.7%	14	19.4%
Improper Turn	628	3.9%	212	3.5%	1	1.4%
Disregarded Traffic Signal	454	2.9%	250	4.1%	24	33.3%
Drove Left of Center	303	1.9%	117	1.9%	8	11.1%
Improper Overtaking	280	1.8%	87	1.4%	6	8.3%
Asleep	234	1.5%	118	2.0%	2	2.8%
Passed Stop Sign	203	1.3%	113	1.9%	2	2.8%
Non-Contact Vehicle Involved	175	1.1%	66	1.1%	1	1.4%
Improper Backing	165	1.0%	16	0.3%	0	0.0%
Hit and Run	157	1.0%	47	0.8%	0	0.0%
Driving Under the Influence	117	0.7%	70	1.2%	0	0.0%
Brakes Defective	98	0.6%	37	0.6%	2	2.8%
Other Defective Condition	71	0.4%	33	0.5%	1	1.4%
Tires Defective	68	0.4%	25	0.4%	0	0.0%
Fatigued	65	0.4%	41	0.7%	5	6.9%
Had Been Drinking	62	0.4%	34	0.6%	0	0.0%
Failed to Signal	41	0.3%	15	0.2%	0	0.0%
Windshield Not Clear	36	0.2%	11	0.2%	0	0.0%
Improper Parking	35	0.2%	13	0.2%	1	1.4%
Headlights Insufficient or Out	32	0.2%	12	0.2%	0	0.0%
Non-collision Fire	27	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Wrong Side of Road	22	0.1%	6	0.1%	0	0.0%
Stolen	19	0.1%	9	0.1%	0	0.0%
Steering Mechanism Defective	18	0.1%	8	0.1%	17	23.6%
Ill	16	0.1%	10	0.2%	0	0.0%
Under the Influence of Drugs	16	0.1%	8	0.1%	0	0.0%
Cargo Loss or Shift	13	0.1%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Lights or Reflecting/Defective	13	0.1%	2	0.0%	14	19.4%
Headlights Glaring	12	0.1%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Immersion	10	0.1%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Vehicle Rolling in Traffic Lane	10	0.1%	4	0.1%	0	0.0%
Eyesight Defective Uncorrected	8	0.1%	3	0.0%	0	0.0%
Jackknife	7	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Separation of Units	7	0.0%	2	0.0%	2	2.8%
Down Hill Runaway	5	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Towed Vehicle	5	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Collision Fire	4	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Explosion or Fire	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	11.1%
Wrong Way on One Way Street	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	15,903	100.0%	6,025	100.0%	72	100.0%

# 1998 Teenage Driver Crash Characteristics

Over half (62%) of all teenage driver crashes and injury crashes (68%) were a rear-end collision or a broadside collision. For fatal teenage driver crashes broadside and single vehicle rollover collisions were the leading collision types. Head-on collisions involving teenage drivers were particularly fatal; this collision type was 22 times more likely to result in a fatality than other collision types. Single vehicle rollovers involving teenage drivers are also dangerous; this collision type was 8 times more likely to result in at least one fatality than other collision types.

Table 6.08 Collision Description of Teenage Driver Crashes, Injury Crashes and Fatal Crashes, 1998

Collision Description	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Rear End	5,524	31.8%	2,044	32.1%	5	7.2%
Broadside	5,186	29.9%	2,270	35.6%	17	24.6%
Multi-vehicle Other	2,526	14.5%	518	8.1%	3	4.3%
Other	1,743	10.0%	450	7.1%	4	5.8%
Side Swipe	1,004	5.8%	221	3.5%	6	8.7%
Single Vehicle Rollover	828	4.8%	511	8.0%	16	23.2%
Pedestrian/Bicyclist Crash	251	1.4%	233	3.7%	7	10.1%
Single Vehicle Fixed Object	152	0.9%	46	0.7%	1	1.4%
Head-on	143	0.8%	82	1.3%	10	14.5%
Single Vehicle Other	5	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	17,362	100.0%	6,377	100.0%	69	100.0%

# 1998 Teenage Driver Characteristics

Slightly more than half (54%) of teenage drivers involved in crashes were male. The majority of teenage drivers (87%) reported wearing a seatbelt.

Figure 6.05 Gender of Teenage Drivers Involved in Crashes, 1998 (n=19,702)

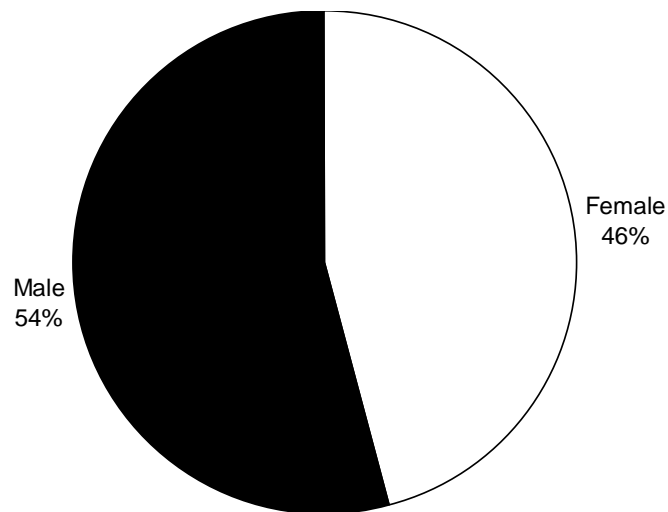
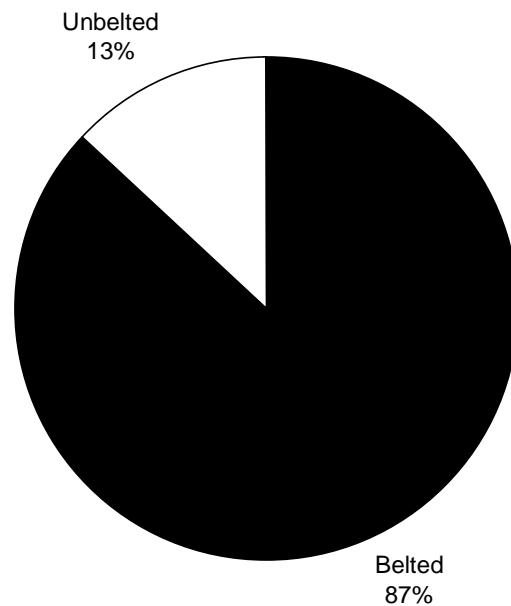


Figure 6.06 Seatbelt Use of Teenage Drivers Involved in Crashes, 1998 (n=17,870)



# 1998 Injury Severity of Occupants in Vehicles of Teenage Drivers

Figure 6.07 Injury Severity of Occupants (including drivers) in Vehicles of Teenage Drivers as Reported by Police, 1998 (n=30,621)

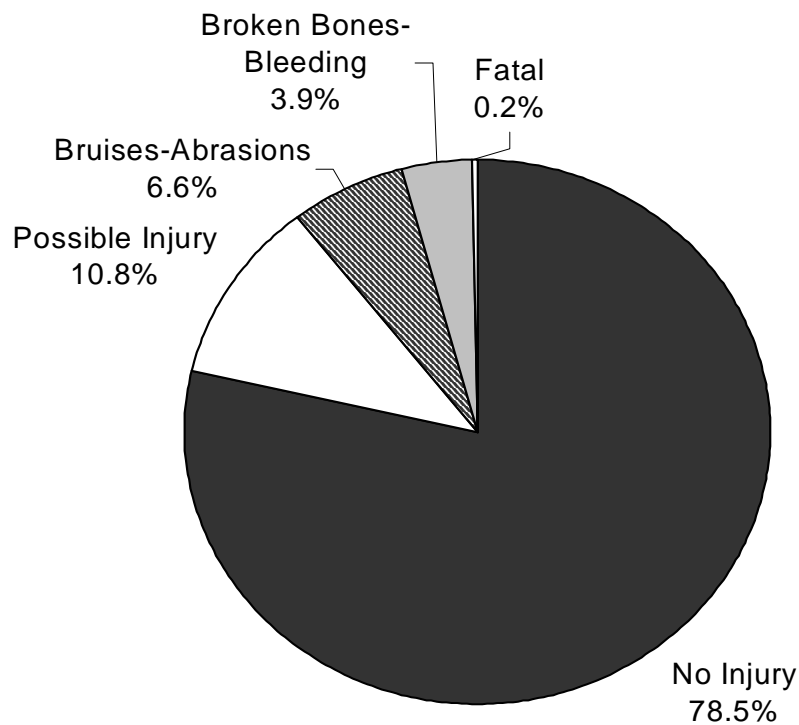


Figure 6.07 shows the injury severity of crash participants (including drivers) in a teenage driver's vehicle. Twenty-one percent (21%) of these occupants sustained an injury compared to all motor vehicle crash participants at 22%. The teenage driver occupants' fatality percentage (0.2%) was similar to the fatality percentage of all motor vehicle crash participants (0.2%).

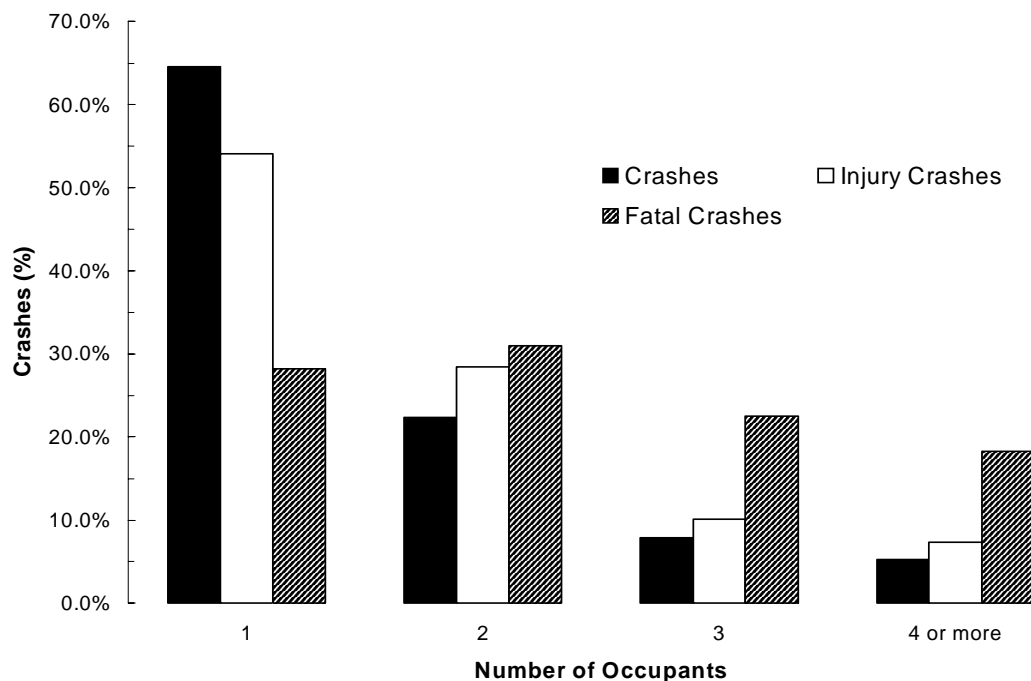
# 1998 Occupants in Vehicles of Teenage Drivers

Table 6.09 shows the number of occupants (including drivers) in a teenage drivers' vehicle by crash severity. In approximately two-thirds (65%) of teenage driver crashes the driver was the only one in the vehicle. As the number of occupants increased, the percentage of fatal crashes also increased. Crashes where the teenage driven vehicle contained 4 or more occupants were 4 times more likely to be fatal than crashes involving teenage driven vehicles with fewer occupants.

Table 6.09 Number of Occupants (including drivers) in Teenage Drivers' Vehicle, 1998

Number of Occupants	Crashes		Injury Crashes		Fatal Crashes	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
1	12,715	64.5%	3,900	54.1%	20	28.2%
2	4,403	22.3%	2,052	28.5%	22	31.0%
3	1,548	7.9%	726	10.1%	16	22.5%
4 or more	1,036	5.3%	532	7.4%	13	18.3%
Grand Total	19,702	100.0%	7,210	100.0%	71	100.0%

Figure 6.08 Number of Occupants (including drivers) in Teenage Drivers' Vehicle, 1998



Note: There may be more than one teenage driver involved in a crash.

The age and gender of crash participants (including drivers) in the young drivers' vehicles is shown in Table 6.10. The percentage of males and females involved in each crash severity was similar. Not surprising, the age of most occupants in teenage driver crashes were between the ages of 15 to 19 years.

Table 6.10 Age and Gender of Occupants (including drivers) in Vehicles of Teenage Drivers by Injury Severity, 1998

Age	Crash Participants				Injured Persons				Fatalities			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
00 - 04	182	1.1%	167	1.2%	29	1.0%	33	0.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
05 - 09	161	1.0%	133	0.9%	59	2.0%	39	1.1%	0	0.0%	3	11.1%
10 - 14	500	3.1%	562	3.9%	161	5.6%	193	5.3%	3	8.8%	1	3.7%
15 - 19	14,292	87.9%	12,552	87.7%	2,342	80.9%	3,051	84.1%	25	73.5%	19	70.4%
20 - 24	521	3.2%	283	2.0%	147	5.1%	88	2.4%	2	5.9%	1	3.7%
25 - 29	94	0.6%	47	0.3%	35	1.2%	20	0.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
30 - 34	40	0.2%	31	0.2%	8	0.3%	15	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
35 - 39	32	0.2%	67	0.5%	15	0.5%	31	0.9%	1	2.9%	1	3.7%
40 - 44	53	0.3%	80	0.6%	10	0.3%	28	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
45 - 49	46	0.3%	65	0.5%	21	0.7%	34	0.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
50 - 54	20	0.1%	37	0.3%	8	0.3%	15	0.4%	0	0.0%	1	3.7%
55 - 59	16	0.1%	19	0.1%	5	0.2%	8	0.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
60 - 64	8	0.0%	8	0.1%	4	0.1%	5	0.1%	1	2.9%	0	0.0%
65 - 69	2	0.0%	6	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
70 - 74	7	0.0%	5	0.0%	3	0.1%	2	0.1%	1	2.9%	0	0.0%
75 - 79	2	0.0%	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	2.9%	0	0.0%
80 - 84	1	0.0%	5	0.0%	1	0.0%	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
85 +	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	3.7%
Missing	282	1.7%	243	1.7%	46	1.6%	60	1.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	16,260	100.0%	14,317	100.0%	2,895	100.0%	3,628	100.0%	34	100.0%	27	100.0%

Note: There were persons involved in teenage driver crashes that did not have age and gender information recorded.

# Graduated Licensing Law

In 1998 a new law, graduated licensing, was enacted to address the concern of teenage driving and crashes. Graduated licensing regulations are in place for new drivers under the age of 18 years and not previously licensed in another state. First-time teenage drivers who apply for a drivers license must complete the following three steps to obtain a drivers license.

- ⇒ **Step 1.** Obtain an instruction permits, which allows driving with a certified driving instructor, complete a driver education course and pass a written exam.
- ⇒ **Step 2.** After reaching age 15 years 9 months, obtain a practice permit which requires driving with a parent, guardian, or licensed over -21 years-old spouse and complete 30 hours of behind-the-wheel driving (at least 10 hours after dark).
- ⇒ **Step 3.** Complete a driving test (or tests) and obtain a provisional (under 21 years) "D" (passenger vehicle), or "M" (passenger vehicle plus motorcycle) license. The provisional license shows "under 21" and has a distinctive color, and allows a lower threshold of points / citations before sanctioning compared to regular licenses.

Additionally, anyone under the age of 17 years may not drive from midnight to 5:00 a.m. except; 1) with an over-21 years-old licensed driver; 2) for employment, or going to or from employment; 3) going to or from a religious or a school activity; 4) in a supervised agricultural operation; or 5) in an emergency.